



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 977

January Session, 2017

* SB00977PD 032717 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH RECORDS BY
ADULT ADOPTED PERSONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 7-53 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2017*):

4 (c) Upon request, the department shall issue an uncertified copy of
5 an original certificate of birth to (1) an adopted person who is eighteen
6 years of age or older, [whose adoption was finalized on or after
7 October 1, 1983,] or (2) such adopted person's adult child or
8 grandchild. Such certificate shall be marked with a notation by the
9 issuer that such original certificate of birth has been superseded by a
10 replacement certificate of birth as on file. Additionally, a notice stating
11 that information related to the birth parents' preferences regarding
12 contact by such adopted person or such adopted person's adult child
13 or grandchild and a medical health history form completed by the
14 birth parent may be on file with the Department of Children and
15 Families shall be printed on such certificate or attached thereto.

16 Sec. 2. Section 7-53a of the general statutes is repealed and the
17 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

18 (a) Not later than January 1, [2016] 2018, and annually thereafter

19 until January 1, [2021] 2023, the Commissioner of Public Health shall
20 submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a,
21 concerning the number of original birth certificates issued annually to
22 adopted persons eighteen years of age or older, [whose adoption was
23 finalized on or after October 1, 1983,] or the adult children or
24 grandchildren of adopted persons in accordance with section 7-53, as
25 amended by this act, to the joint standing committee of the General
26 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health.

27 (b) Not later than January 1, [2016] 2018, and annually thereafter
28 until January 1, [2021] 2023, the Commissioner of Children and
29 Families shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of
30 section 11-4a, concerning the number of contact preference forms and
31 medical health history forms annually filed with the department in
32 accordance with section 17a-60a to the joint standing committee of the
33 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
34 health. The report shall include the number of birth parents that
35 selected each option described in section 17a-60a.

36 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 45a-751b of the general statutes is
37 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
38 *1, 2017*):

39 (c) Regardless of the date parental rights were terminated, on or
40 after July 1, [2015] 2017, the Department of Public Health shall, upon
41 request, issue an uncertified copy of an original birth certificate to an
42 adopted person eighteen years of age or older who is the subject of the
43 birth certificate, [and whose adoption was finalized on or after October
44 1, 1983,] or such adopted person's adult child or grandchild, in
45 accordance with the provisions of section 7-53, as amended by this act.

46 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 45a-751c of the general statutes is
47 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
48 *1, 2017*):

49 (a) On the petition of an adopted person who is eighteen years of

50 age or older, [and whose adoption was finalized prior to October 1,
 51 1983,] or such adopted person's adult child or grandchild, the Probate
 52 Court or the Superior Court that finalized an adoption or appointed a
 53 guardian ad litem in accordance with section 45a-753 shall issue an
 54 order directing the Department of Public Health to issue an uncertified
 55 copy of an original birth certificate to such adopted person or such
 56 adopted person's child or grandchild in accordance with subsection (b)
 57 of section 7-53, as amended by this act, provided each birth parent
 58 named on the original birth certificate: (1) Consents to the release of
 59 identifying information in accordance with sections 45a-751 to 45a-
 60 751b, inclusive, as amended by this act; (2) is deceased; or (3) a legal
 61 representative or guardian ad litem consents to the release of
 62 identifying information on behalf of the birth parent in accordance
 63 with section 45a-753. Nothing in this section shall limit the right of an
 64 adopted person eighteen years of age or older, [whose adoption was
 65 finalized on or after October 1, 1983,] or such adopted person's adult
 66 child or grandchild to obtain an uncertified copy of an original birth
 67 certificate pursuant to section 7-53, as amended by this act.

68 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) If the Department of Public
 69 Health makes a good faith effort to provide an uncertified copy of an
 70 original birth certificate to an adopted person eighteen years of age or
 71 older pursuant to subsection (c) of section 7-53 of the general statutes,
 72 as amended by this act, but is unable to do so, such adopted person
 73 may petition a court of competent jurisdiction to issue an order
 74 directing the child-placing agency, as defined in section 45a-707 of the
 75 general statutes, that was involved in the adoption of such person to
 76 provide such person with the true and correct identifying information
 77 that would have appeared on his or her original birth certificate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	7-53(c)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	7-53a
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	45a-751b(c)

Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	45a-751c(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section

PD *Joint Favorable Subst.*